

WASHINGTON – Rep. Sanford D. Bishop, Jr. (GA-02) today released the following statement after the House of Representatives passed a partisan budget by a vote of 235 to 193.

"The nation's budget is a statement about our priorities and our values. With the country at a crossroad, we have to make very difficult choices about how we reduce our deficit and bring down our debt. I voted against the Republican budget because it makes the wrong choices, and fails to sufficiently reduce the deficit, grow the economy or create jobs.

"The bill that passed the House today would end Medicare as we know it and replace it with a voucher system which could force seniors to negotiate with insurance companies and pay more money out of their pockets. The GOP budget also turns Medicaid into a block grant program, placing an even greater burden on state and local governments without reducing costs. Instead of saddling America's seniors with higher health care costs and threatening their way of life, we need to find solutions that preserve these vital programs.

"If we are going to solve our fiscal challenges, we must get past the rigid ideological differences that have prevented us from finding effective bipartisan solutions that grow our economy and reduce government spending. I am committed to working with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to find ways to strengthen our economy, invest in our future, and responsibly reduce our debt."

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